CLAIMS

- 1. Computer interface system comprising:
 - (a) means for providing a cursor for linkage with objects;
- (b) means for generating the haptic representation of objects directly from the graphical representation of the objects for linkage with the cursor;
- (c) means for creating, modifying, and saving haptic materials for creating a heuristic database to be used in the modeling of haptic virtual environments; and
- (d) means for utilizing the material database for the modeling of haptic virtual environments.
- 2. The system of claim 1 wherein said data base comprises one or more of static friction, dynamic friction, stiffness, and damping components